

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 030205
ORIGIN EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:SMCCALL:ACH
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
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-----053417 041410Z /43

P 040612Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030205

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. AMBASSADOR DOES NOT PLAN PUBLIC SPEECHES AT THIS TIME
AND ASKS THAT YOU REPLY TO THE LETTERS YOU HAVE REGRETTING
AT THIS TIME BUT ADDING THAT HE EXPECTS TO VISIT THE STATES
AGAIN IN MAY AND COULD CONSIDER SPEAKING AT THAT TIME SHOULD
THEY WISH TO PURSUE THE MATTER.

2. APPRECIATE YOUR CALL AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH
SHAUN. LATEST TURN OF EVENTS HERE IS THAT HIS COUNSELOR,
JOHN FORD, HAS SUSPENDED ACTION PENDING A CABLE FROM SHAUN
ON MONDAY. THIS SEEMS THE RATIONAL WAY TO HANDLE THE
MATTER. IMPRESSIONS HERE OF WHAT SHAUN HAS SAID DIFFER
WIDELY.

3. WE DID NOT RECEIVE MOSCOW 1504 UNTIL YOU GAVE US THE
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NUMBER AND WE ASKED FOR IT. CONSEQUENTLY OUR REQUEST LAST
NIGHT FOR VIEWS ON A ROTATIONAL SLOT CROSSED WITH YOUR
STATEMENT THAT YOU WOULD NOT HAVE HOUSING BEFORE 1979. ANY
IDEA WHEN IN 1979? IF WE SHOULD GET A SHOT AT SUCH A
POSITION, WE WOULD VERY LIKELY HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO FILL
IT WITHOUT MORE DELAY THAN REQUIRED IN FINDING A

CANDIDATE AND PUTTING HIM THROUGH SIX MONTHS LANGUAGE.
IF WE PUT AN OFFICER IN FSI IN AUGUST, COULD YOU HAVE
HOUSING BY FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR?

4. RE MOSCOW 1584, PARA 3, THE PERCENTAGE FIGURE CITED
IS VERY SENSITIVE AND SHOULD NOT BE USED IN REGULAR
CHANNEL TRAFFIC NOR DISCUSSED EXCEPT UNDER STRICT
SECURITY. APPARENTLY REF D CITED IN REFTEL OR PORTION OF
IT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN SENT OUT. GLITCH WAS AT THIS
END, A FACT YOU MAY BE AMUSED TO LEARN, WHICH ONLY CAME
TO LIGHT WHEN WE CHALLENGED A PROPOSED REBUKE TO MOSCOW.
WE SAID YOU WERE TOO PROFESSIONAL TO MAKE SUCH AN ERROR.

5. FOR BILL FARRAND: WE ARE ASKING HIGGINS TO CABLE YOU
OFFER FROM US TO CURTAIL PRESENT ASSIGNMENT AND COME HERE
TO HEAD BILATERAL VICE MEL. YOUR REPLY WILL ENABLE US TO
PANEL YOU. PLEASE LET US KNOW IN THIS CHANNEL THE CABLE
NUMBER OF YOUR REPLY SO WE CAN PUSH IT ALONG.

6. RE SHUTTLE-SALYUT/INTERPLANETARY TALKS AS DISCUSSED
MOSCOW 1558, YOU SHOULD ALREADY HAVE STATE 28158 ON
SHUTTLE-SALYUT. A HINNERS-PETROV LETTER HAS BEEN CLEARED
AND SHOULD ARRIVE AT STATE FOR TRANSMISSION ON MONDAY.
IT RECOUNTS MEETING WITH KIRILLIN AND PROPOSES INTER-
PLANETARY TALKS IN CONJUNCTION WITH SHUTTLE-SALYUT.
ALTHOUGH BOTH LETTERS WERE WRITTEN AND CLEARED BEFORE
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RECEIPT OF MOSCOW 1540, THEY SEEM TO HAVE THE CONTENT
YOU SUGGEST. AS A TACTICAL MATTER YOU MAY WISH TO HOLD
THE FIRST UNTIL RECEIPT OF THE SECOND. IF EITHER GIVES
YOU PROBLEMS YOU MAY WISH TO PROPOSE CHANGES IN REGULAR
CHANNELS.

7. WE UNDERSTAND FROM GOOD SOURCES THAT SENATOR JACKSON
HAS RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION AND
NOW PLANS TO ARRIVE IN LATE MARCH. HE TRAVELS TO CHINA
NEXT WEEK. WE WILL KEEP YOU CLOSELY INFORMED.

8. RE MOSCOW 1715 PARA 4, CONCUR.

9. WE HAVE PANELLED DAVID WAGNER VICE SCHUMAKER IN 1979.
WAGNER IS AN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD FSO-6 WHO HAS HANDLED THE
PANAMA DESK ON HIS FIRST TOUR. HE IS A BACHELOR AND HAS A
1/1 IN RUSSIAN. HE WILL TAKE THE FULL FSI LANGUAGE COURSE
BEGINNING THIS AUGUST. VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** ONLY

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE030205
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SMCCALL:ACH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780053-1089
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802113/aaaafnzp.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: eb5d9cce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3461747
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970826
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL
TAGS: OGEN, OGEN
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb5d9cce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014